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slides, from which it was evident that the experiments had been highly successful. Many of the slides had been colored by Mrs. Van Brunt, and the accuracy and delicacy of the coloring was much admired.

Index to Recent Literature Relating to American Botany.

Acarocecidien und Acarodomatien—Einige neue. G. de Lagerheirm (Ber. Deutsch. Bot. Gesell. x. 611–619).

Bacteria in the Dairy. H. W. Conn (5th Ann. Rep. Storrs School Agric. Exp. Sta. 106–126).

Cæsalpinia—The Genus. E. M. Fisher (Bot. Gaz. xviii. 121–123).

Mr. Fisher has followed up the suggestion made in the BULLETIN, vol. xix. p. 345, that the species of *Hoffmanseggia*, so critically described by him (Contr. Nat. Herb. i. No. 5), should be referred to *Cæsalpinia*, and now transfers them all to this genus.

Contributions to the Life Histories of Plants. No. VIII. Thomas Meehan (Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila. 1892, 366–386).

This paper consists of observations on the following subjects: *Euphrasia officinalis;* Notes on *Gaura* and *Œnothera:* The Carpellary Structure of *Nymphæa;* On the Sexual Characters of *Rhus; Rubus Chamæmorus; Dalibarda repens*; On some Morphological Distinctions in the Genera of Ericaceæ; Vitality of Seeds, *Lysimachia atropurpurea: Campanula rotundifolia ; Cornus Canadensis ; Aralia hispida ; Luzula campestris ; Cakile Americana ; Hypericum ellipticum ; Trifolium hybridum ; Lathyrus maritimus ; Lonicera cærulea ; Raphanus sativus ;* On the Nature of the Verrucæ in some Convolvulaceæ; *Polygonum cilinode ; Aster Tatarica.*

Contributions to Western Botany, No. 3. Marcus E. Jones (Zoe. iii. 283–309).

Notes on a large number the species, the following described as new: *Lepidium heterophyllum ; Astragalus diphysus*, var. *latus ; A. Beckwithii*, var. *purpureus ; A. Dodgianus ; A. Ibapensis ; A. Peabodianus ; A. Toanus ; A. atratus*, var. *stenophyllus ; Cymopterus Ibapensis*, and *Primula Broadheadæ.*

Diatomaceæ of Minnesota, Inter-Glacial Peat. Benj. W. Thomas (Geol. and Nat. Hist. Surv. Minn. Twentieth Ann. Rept. (1891), 290–320).

The discovery of diatoms in a peat bed, in Blue Earth county, Minn., interbedded between glacial clays, is described and about 100 species are listed. They are all fresh water, and with few exceptions, living species. The clays above and below the peat are of marine origin. The list is the work of H. L. Smith, and accompanying it are a series of critical notes, which are of great value for reference and comparison. A chapter upon methods of preparation, by Dr. C. Johnston, is also appended. A. H.

Fungi common in 1892 in Iowa. L. H. Pammel (Agric. Sci. January, 1893).

A long list arranged under the several orders of the most destructive fungi of last year in Central Iowa.

Fungus—A Parasitic (Heterosporium asperatum). Geo. Massee (Am. Jour. Mic. February, 1893).

This treats of the *Heterosporium* as parasitic upon *Smilacina stellata,* accompanied by a full page plate, giving details of the structure of the fungus.

Grasses—Some Diseases of. W. C. Stevens (Kan. Univ. Quart. January, 1893).

The grass fungus parasites with regard to their effects are grouped: (1) as those destructive to host tissues, *Puccinias* as examples; (2) those producing abnormal growths, corn smut as illustration; (3) destroying the chlorophyll, and (4) those attacking the ovaries, as the ergots. Three microphotograph plates illustrate the points made.

Leguminosengattungen—Zur Kenntniss einige. P. Taubert (Ber. Deutsch. Bot. Gesell. x. 637–642).

The genus *Garugandra,* Griseb, found on a tree of the Argentine Republic and Bolivia, is referred to *Gleditschia* and figured.

Myxomycetes of the Miami Valley. A. P. Morgan (Jour. Cincinnati Soc. Nat. Hist. xv., Nos. 3–4).

This is the first of a series of papers; characterizes the group; lists the species with descriptions under two orders, namely: Liceaceæ and Reticulariaceæ and records five new species with figures of them in a single plate.

Phalloid—A New. A. P. Morgan (Jour. Cincinnati Soc. Nat. Hist. xv., Nos. 3 and 4). *Phallogaster* as a new genus is described and under it *Phallogaster saccatus*, Morgan, n. sp. A full page plate is given of the same.

Phyllogaster saccatus—Note on. Roland Thaxter (Bot. Gaz. xviii. 117–121, one plate).

Revision der Kleineren Ranunculaceen-Gattungen Myosurus, Trautvetteria, Hamadryas, Glaucidium, Hydrastis, Eranthis, Coptis, Anemonopsis, Actæa, Cimicifuga and Xanthorrhiza.—E. Huth (Engler's Bot. Jahrb. xvi. 278–324).

For a critical review of this important paper, we would refer to Prof. Greene in Erythea, i. 70.

Root Tubercles of Indigenous and exotic Legumes in Virgin Soil of Northwest. H. L. Bolley (Agric. Sci. February, 1893).

Twenty-one native species of Leguminosæ are named as bearing tubercles, the character of the soil, usually in Dakota, being given for each host. In like manner sixteen exotic species of the same order are listed as bearing the tubercles. Non-leguminous plants as *Alnus, Shepherdia* and *Eleagnus* are mentioned as bearing nodules upon their roots.

Russian Thistle and other Troublesome Weeds in the Wheat Region of Minnesota and South Dakota. L. H. Dewey (U. S. Dept. Agric., Farmer's Bulletin No. 10 pp. 16, two plates).

The "Russian Thistle" or "Russian Cactus" is *Salsola Kali*, L., var. *Tragus*, D. C., closely related to the saltwort of the seabeaches, and thus neither a thistle nor a cactus. It has long been a pernicious weed in the wheat regions of Russia and became introduced into those of our Northwest about fifteen years ago. It has now spread over some 30,000 square miles and is the cause of much financial loss and endless trouble.

Salix balsamifera. Edward L. Rand (Garden and Forest, vi. 105).

Schneeflora des Pichincha. Ein Beitrag zur Kenntniss der Nivalen Algen und Pilze. G. de Lagerheim (Ber. Deutsch. Bot. Gesell. x. 517–534, one plate).

Description of new species in the genera *Chlamydomonas*, *Raphidonema*, and of a new genus, *Selenotilla*, with a list other plants of low organization from the snows of this Equador mountain peak.

Sereno Watson. George Lincoln Goodale (Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts and Sci. xxvii. 403–416).

A biographical notice with portrait and a list of Dr. Watson's published papers.

Slime-molds and Club-root. A. B. Seymour (American Gardening, xiv. 160).

Some Bean Diseases. S. A. Beach (A thesis in the Botanical Department of Iowa Agric. College for the master's degree).

This is an extensive paper upon the Bean Pod Spot (*Colletotrichum Lindemuthianum* (S. & M.) B. & C)., giving the distribution and character of the disease and its appearance upon pods, leaves, seed and seedlings. Field experiments were made with fungicides, and comparisons of results are given in the chapter closing with a bibliography of the subject.

Brief mention is added of a bacterial bean blight and of the Bean Rust (*Uromyces Phaseoli* (Pers.) Wint). Six full page plates are given. The same matter appears as Bull. 48 of the Geneva, N. Y., Exp. Station pp. 305–333. B. D. H.

Stuartia.—Geo. Nicholson (Garden, xliii. 172). With a figure of *Stuartia Virginica.*

The New Botany. Lester F. Ward (Science, xxi. 43, 44).

This article is in the nature of a plea for the more systematic study of plant affinities rather than plant differences. The author urges the necessity for the study of fossil plants in order that we may understand the ancestry of our living plants and how these came to be what we now find them. The mere determination of plants, either living or fossil, is of course necessary, but in order to appreciate fully what these determinations mean, a close study of their affinities is necessary, and this can only be done by a close comparison of living and fossil forms. A. H.